

an information processing unit which sets one of (i) a photographing operation mode in which said portable information processing apparatus processes information for controlling said photographing unit, and (ii) a normal operation mode in which said portable information processing apparatus processes other information excluding the information for controlling said photographing unit, wherein said information processing unit sets the normal operation mode when a first predetermined detection signal which corresponds to an operation for setting the normal operation mode is received, and wherein said information processing unit sets the photographing operation mode when a second predetermined signal which corresponds to an operation for setting the photographing operation mode is received; and

a track ball operating member which is operable in conjunction with said information processing unit to: (i) control operations of said portable information processing apparatus when the normal operation mode is set, and (ii) control operations of said photographing unit when the photographing operation mode is set.

**9.** An apparatus according to claim **8**, wherein said track ball operating member includes means for indicating on a portion of said information display unit a position at which the photographing unit is focused when the photographing operation mode is set.

**10.** A portable information processing apparatus comprising:

a photographing unit which performs a photographing operation to obtain photographic image information; and  
an information display unit which displays information for controlling said portable information processing apparatus and the photographic image information obtained by said photographing unit;

an information input unit including a plurality of operation keys for inputting information for controlling said photographing unit and for inputting other processing information;

an information processing unit which sets one of (i) a photographing operation mode in which said portable information processing apparatus processes the information for controlling said photographing unit, and (ii) a normal operation mode in which said portable information processing apparatus processes the other processing information, wherein said information processing unit sets the normal operation mode when a first predetermined detection signal which corresponds to an operation for setting the normal operation mode is received, and wherein said information processing unit sets the photographing operation mode when a second predetermined signal which corresponds to an operation for setting the photographing operation mode is received; and

a function setting unit which sets said plurality of operation keys to be operable for controlling said information processing apparatus when the normal operation mode is set, and which sets predetermined ones of said plurality of operation keys to be operable for controlling said photographing unit when the photographing operation mode is set.

**11.** An apparatus according to claim **10**, further comprising an information storage unit for storing photographic image information obtained by said photographing unit, said information storage unit being provided with an information storage medium port through which an independent information storage medium can be inserted into the information storage unit and removed therefrom.

\* \* \* \* \*